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## **Sen. Allen to visit northern Michigan scouts at Boy Scout National Jamboree**

**LANSING** – State Sen. Jason Allen, R-Traverse City, will attend the Boy Scout National Jamboree in Virginia at the end of the month and visit with scouts from the 37th Senate District. All three scout councils that overlap Sen. Allen's district: Scenic Trails, Hiawathaland, and Lake Huron Area Council, will be visited by Allen.

"As former jamboree troop member and an Eagle Scout myself, this is a wonderful opportunity to spend time with fellow scouts from across the country," Allen said. "The Boy Scouts of America is an important institution which plays a significant role in our society. Being a Boy Scout has had a profound impact on my life."

Allen will be joined at the event by Rep. Kevin Elsenheimer, R-Bellaire; also an Eagle Scout, as well as two other Scenic Trails Council Eagle Scouts. The jamboree serves as an opportunity for scouts from around the globe to come together for fellowship and learning.

The jamboree will take place from Sunday, July 24 through Monday, August 1 in Caroline County, Virginia, near the towns of Fredericksburg and Bowling Green. On Sunday, July 31, the group will eat dinner with the Scenic Trails contingent, meet with fellow scouts from Hiawathaland and Lake Huron Area Councils as well as other Michigan scouts, and end the day with the arena show, which is attended by the 40,000-plus jamboree crowd.

"The jamboree is a great opportunity for the scouts to meet and make friends with scouts from across the country," Allen said. "While the jamboree is one of the most fun and exciting weeks a scout can have, those same activities will teach a boy valuable skills he can use."

Daily jamboree activities include archery, buckskin games, conservation programs, scuba and raft opportunities. In addition, there are also rappelling towers, trap shooting and nightly shows.

For scouts still working towards their Eagle Scout rank, there is also a merit badge midway where scouts can learn new skills and fulfill advancement requirements. Allen, who is a qualified merit badge counselor in the citizenship and civics areas, will also be available to assist scouts working to fulfill needed requirements.

"I am very excited to be able to attend the jamboree with our own scouts from northern Michigan and see them in action," Elsenheimer said. "The jamboree will be one of those great scouting experiences that they will remember for years to come."

More than 600,000 Scouts and leaders have participated in the annual event since the first jamboree was held in Washington, D.C. in 1937.

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**Editor's note:** Any media interested in scheduling a time to speak with Allen regarding his trip to the Boy Scouts of America National Jamboree should contact Laura DuBreuil in his office at 1-866-525-5637.